

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: OOCL-44 (2KF-00S1003)

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Technology Center 2600

Applicant: Hideaki YOSHIDA

Serial No.: **09/713,973**

Filing Date: November 16, 2000

Title: IMAGE PICKUP DEVICE AND EXPOSURE CONTROL METHOD IN THE

IMAGE PICKUP DEVICE

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)(3) OR (c)(1) AND (e)(1)

The applicant respectfully requests that the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A be considered in the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of each of these references is enclosed. A copy of the action from the Japanese Patent Office (JPO) which cited the Japanese references, as well as a translation of the JPO Action, are also provided.

The applicant reserves the right to establish that any of the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A are not prior art to the above-captioned application.

Since no Office Action on the merits has been received, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement should be considered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

If, however, a first Office Action has been mailed, this Information Disclosure Statement should be considered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1) and (e)(1) because each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

The concise explanation of relevance of the non-English language reference is satisfied by the English language translation of an action by the JPO which indicates the degree of relevance found by the JPO. See MPEP 609(III)(A)(3).

No fee is believed due. However, in the event that a fee is due in order to have the Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith considered, the Patent Office is authorized to charge said fee to the deposit account of Straub & Pokotylo, deposit account number 50-1049.

Respectfully submitted,

October 17, 2003

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING under 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on **October 17, 2003** with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

John ¢. Pokotylo

Req. No.